

Falls of the James Scenic River Advisory Board

Approved Minutes for January 9, 2003

Attendees:

Board Members:

Chairman Ralph Hambrick, Vice Chairman Sue Cecil, Louise Burke, Catherine Harold, Lynn Newcomb, John Pearsall, Greg Velzy and Jonathan Young.

Others:

Buzz Kraft (Richmond Raft), Lyn Lanier (Friends of James River Park), Alisia Penn (City of Richmond), Ralph White (Parks and Recreation) and Mary Wickham (Friends of James River Park).

Chairman Hambrick called the meeting to order and initiated a review of the minutes. The Board voted unanimously to endorse the minutes as recorded for both the November 7th and 25th meetings.

The Board engaged in some discussion regarding HB1627 and Hambrick requested that the Board support the legislation. The Board agreed with the chair's recommendation and unanimously voted to endorse HB1627.

The Board briefly discussed topics including the proposed Riverside Village, electronic communication and surface water management.

Ralph White informed the Board of the progress associated with the Oregon Hill Greenway and Velzy inquired of him his opinions regarding security lapses that could occur as a result of the new pathway. White advised the Board that current problems are not connected with Oregon Hill though he did advise the Board of the problems on Belle Isle. White notified the Board of Dominion's reluctance to lock the footbridge's gate and the vandalism that has occurred as a result. The Board addressed this revelation though no consensus was reached.

John Pearsall communicated Lyle Browning's conversations concerning the status of canal artifacts.

The Board discussed Riverside Drive and Catherine Harold voiced her concern that the City may elect to adopt a remedy that would be aesthetically displeasing. Other Board members conveyed the same concern and agreed that a diligent review of any said proposal should begin immediately.

Ralph White and Lyn Lanier informed the Board of the Pump House roof's progress.

Greg Velzy advised the Board of the James River Outdoor Coalition's status including its nonprofit filing and its plan to renovate kiosks.

Greg Velzy alerted the Board of the recent river rescue and the failure of the river rescue squad to reach those in need. The Board engaged in a rather lengthy discussion and Hambrick requested that the Board initiate a joint analysis of the potential problem with other interested parties.

Ralph White informed the Board of the addition of bike lanes on Riverside Drive.

The Board adjourned at 1:50.